

CLAIMS

- 1 A chicken anaemia virus (CAV), characterised in that the virus is neutralised by a reference sample comprising monoclonal antibody R2 secreted by a hybridoma cell line, a sample of which is deposited at the ECACC under accession no. 00020304.
- 2 A CAV according to claim 1, characterised in that the virus is in a live form.
- 3 A CAV according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the titre of the reference sample against the CAV is at least 10 (\log_2) per 50 μ l, more preferably at least 12 (\log_2) per 50 μ l or even at least 14 (\log_2) per 50 μ l when examined against 300-1000 TCID₅₀ per 50 μ l of the CAV.
- 4 A CAV according to claim 3, characterised in that the titre of the reference sample against the CAV is at least 16 (\log_2) per 50 μ l when examined against 300-1000 TCID₅₀ per 50 μ l of the CAV.
- 5 A CAV according to claim 4, characterised in that it is the CAV strain 319, a sample of which is deposited at the ECACC under accession no. 00012608.
- 6 A vaccine for protecting poultry against disease conditions resulting from a CAV infection, comprising a CAV according to claims 1-5, and a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or diluent.
- 7 A vaccine according to claims 6, characterised in that the vaccine further comprises an adjuvant.
- 8 A vaccine according to claims 6 or 7, characterised in that the vaccine further comprises one or more vaccine components of other pathogens infectious to poultry.

- 9 A method for the preparation of CAV defined in claims 1-5 comprising the steps of:
- a. inoculating a susceptible substrate with the CAV,
 - b. propagating the virus, and
 - c. harvesting CAV containing material.

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- 10 A method for the preparation of a vaccine for protecting poultry against disease conditions resulting from a CAV infection, comprising combining the harvested CAV obtained by the method according to claim 9, if desired after inactivation of the CAV, with a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or diluent.

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- 11 Use of a CAV defined in claims 1-5 for the manufacture of a vaccine for in ovo administration.

- 12 Use of a CAV defined in claims 1-5 for the manufacture of a vaccine for parenteral administration to one-day-old chicks.

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- 13 A method for controlling disease conditions resulting from a CAV infection in poultry, comprising administering the vaccine according the claims 6-8 to the birds.